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NO. 32 March 15 1988 Atiu-Cook Islands

STRATEGY

THE BIG BAD MESS(ES) - THINGS WILL GET WORSE:

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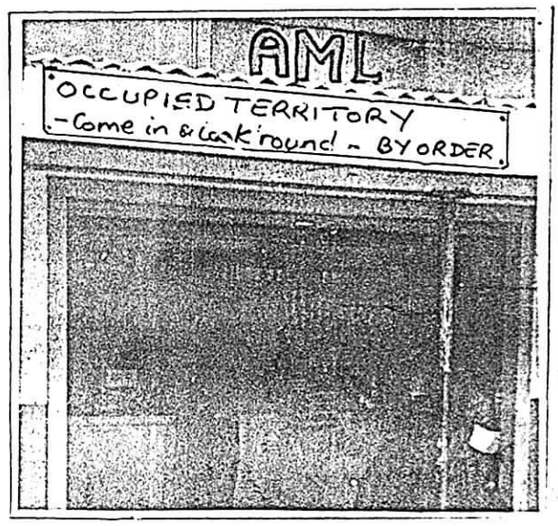
It's war!

"GREED AND BLOODY SELF INTEREST" - ROGER AND OUT?

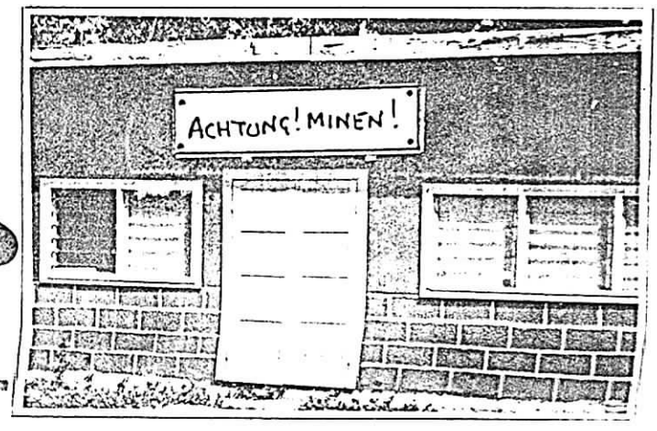
ECONOMY & POLICY

BELOW: The Battle of the Shops 1986-8
"PEACE TALKS FAIL AGAIN!"
-our special correspondent at the Atiu Front



MINISTER EXPLODES!

INSIDE



THE SATIRICAL WEEKLY OF THE PACIFIC

2 March 15 1988.

MR VERA'S Independent JOURNAL

a national publication.

P.O. ATIU C.I.S.

Cook Islands

The JOURNAL offers a weekly review of news, commentary and features at home and abroad from a Cook Is. and Pacific Regional standpoint.

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Editorial

Many discussions about the dilemmas facing modern small island nations in the Pacific centre upon the magic "buzz word" Development.

It has, of course, assumed in our own country the status of a pagan god.

Like all the top pagan gods, it has a spouse.

Her name is Infrastructure.

Their High Priests live in the Great Temple of the United Nations where they conduct all manner of grotesque posturing in honour of Development and his evil mistress Infrastructure.

In every little country of the world where the people worship Gods, minor priests in lesser temples known as Parliaments, whip the people into obeisance to the Great God Development, forcing them to acknowledge that he is the highest god of all.

In return, Development rewards his priests lavishly with all manner of presents in the form of houses, cars, trips, loans, status, clothes, contacts and retirement benefits.

All He asks for in return is the regular offering of sacrifices.

And so, at appropriately regular intervals (especially in the sacred quintennial Festival of the Elections) the people are rounded up, lashed together and tossed alive into the roaring inferno of yet another magic scheme..

To keep Development happy.

To say nothing of his ugly lady wife Infrastructure...

..and all their nasty little Projects.

Minister Norman George has once more done the JOURNAL the courtesy of submitting for our report and commentary the opening pronouncements on an issue of vital Atiuan and National interest.

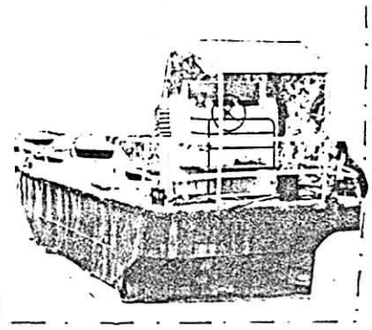
ELI, the Vanilla Project and the Airport are all elements in the far wider story of the Incorporation of Land.

Perhaps the Pacific's leading authority on Land Tenure, our own Prof. Ron Crocombe of USP, has in the past suggested that a major factor in Economic Development will be the means by which people attempt to wed their customary interest in small family blocks of land with the obvious commercial need for large areas of land to be incorporated.

His view is widely shared by economists of all persuasions throughout the Pacific.

This edition of the JOURNAL attempts to examine many of the issues arising in this area on Atiu.

RIGHT:
Relic of late 20th century idol to pagan god Development. Circa 1979 AN (After Norm). Located Atiu Wharf in advanced state of decay.
(By kind Permission of the curator Sir Joseph Caffery TLT Memorial Museum)



THE AREORA PUTSCH

SCENE:

Die deepeste, ghastlichest dungeon in der bowels von dem notorious Schloss Areora...just nach klosing Zeit.

ENTER:

Blau-eyed, blondische haared Obertorturer Vater Zwei, Gauleiter von Tengatangi and Meister Schwizzler in dem pay von der kruellisch Graf Jurgen, Prinz von Ko-Op und heir zu all er surveys und ein right Heidelburger.

Ein ancient kulturallische Rack ist auf dem Donut Kounter und stretcht aus darauf, ein Frozende Chook gestufft up sein Wie Geht's dein Vater, is der Meistwantedmann in alles Enua Manu - der devilische kunning McRoger, founder und Präsident von der kiwi Feebleliberalsantinormanspartei, ein well-geknowne Ripperoffer.

Obertorturer Vater Zwei winds up dem Rack und beginnt den Big Stretch to McRoger zu give.

Screams obscured by sound of distant marching songs offstage by massed Sturm und Drang Veterans of der Atiu Jugend Brigade, die feared und detested Pareu Shirts.

VZ: Koff it up, McRoger. Wir have die extremely inkriminating tape rekordings von dein viele insults und defamatorische remarks um die members von der noble Inkorporatzion who schpend alle their lives making die grosse sakrifeis fur der schtinkinger kleine Volk von Atiu.

McR: Nichts doing, mein alte Frog.

VZ: Ich bin nicht ein Frog. Ich bin ein kartkarrying Kraut.

McR: Frog, kraut, nip, wog, aussie, coconut, pom...alles der same zu us Feeblekiviliberalspartei members, mate.

VZ: Achtung, kleine Frozenchookcheeter, wir haben alles on tape.

McR: Do Sein damndestse, Vater Zwei. Unser Kiwis fear niemand.

VZ: Did du klaim dass der Gute Graf Jurgen, Prinz von Ko-Op wass ein inkompetente rogue und ein fliegend-bei-nacht Konnmann?

McR: Ich deny it! Ich habe der grossest Respekt fur der gute Graft...Ich means...Graf!

VZ: Und did du akkuse mein honourablisch fellow Meister Schwizzler the Mad Paratanker, von der outragische Korrupion mit der Hausinger Lönen...?

McR: Never! Never! Ich habe ein gross opinion von Herr Paratanker.

VZ: Und did du deklare dass Feldmarschal Tepid von der Boozer had nicht returned sein Shout in der Offiziere Quarters in der rote lichte bar von der Heibiskus, ein lootgestufft meeting haus fur die disruptive Elementen von der anti-Normanisch wing of der Feeblekiviliberalspartei?

McR; Nein, ein tausend zeit nein. Ich would never insult der gute Freund Tepid.

VZ: Und did du deskribe der Reichskanzellor Niemann von Georg, Order von der Kokonut Kreuz Erste Klasse mit dem Kikau Leaves, Gauleiter von Areora....did du deskribe him as ein grosse, verdammte krappschittinger Schwindler von dem ersten Order?

McR; Well, surely that's fair komment...nicht wahr?

NO, BUT SERIOUSLY—

Atiu's history of "development" is probably little different from that of other Outer Islands in the troubled, turbulent and very controversial era of Coalition....except for the personalities involved. Each of them is archetypal. There is the hard-line local "man of the people", MP Mariri Parataínga and the outspoken, confrontational Minister Norman George

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-ROGER AND OUT?

March 15 1988.

on the government side...and, on the commercial side, the cool, backroom, smoke-filled corridors operator Jurgen Manske and the often "uncool", "let-it-all hang-out kiwi liberal immigrant Roger Malcolm. The clash was inevitable. When, eventually, it reached real crisis point, it became virtually an all-out war with both sides demanding unconditional surrender. The declaration came last week. And the communique was issued by Norman George in a press release to the JOURNAL.

The background to the affair is incredibly complex.

A tiny, happy-smiling, tropical paradise is an unlikely background to national and international political and commercial intrigue.

Yet, in terms of complexity, the inter-weaving pattern of dispute, accusation and counter accusation, Atiuan "Developm-ent" in the period of the Coalition Government could serve as raw data for any of a dozen political, economic or sociological PhD theses.

The JOURNAL's reference library has been increased recently by the kind remittance by reader Prof. Ron Crocombe of an extremely important collection of essays under the title "Class and Culture in the South Pacific".

It makes salutory reading.

It is one of the few ways, on Atiu, of getting a grip on reality.

Reading through the essays on developmental trends in our Region lifts you out of the fantasy world of petty corruption, bickering, meanness, ignorance and opportunism that have characterised the ELI, ADC and Vanilla Projects on Atiu.

They, and the personalities both political, commercial, repeat the sorry tale all over our Region.

There is nothing new on the face of Te Moana Nui.

Possibly the only immediate reaction felt by this paper over a year's "development" is sadness... ..that the local leaders of Atiu have connived, backstab and bickered their island into a thoroughly nasty, secretive place of fear, threat and impoverishment....and that leaders of the proven respect and stature of Norman George and Mariri Parataingа have been driven by the terms of government à la Coalition to become part of the wretched scene.

But....

We digress; the proper place for commentary is after you have read the material.

First, the press release from Minister George and then, properly, the reply.

To fill in the background, the following may be of interest.

*Norman George gained the Areora, Te Ngatangi, Ngatarua seat in the second 1983 election on a Democratic Party platform loosely committed to a programme of opening up economic opportunities in new fields. In August 1984, he joined the Coalition of pro-~~Davis Demos and~~ the CIP. He has continued as Foreign Minister in both the succeeding Coalitions.

Since 1987, he has accepted the role of political spearhead for the Atiu Development Corporation, an extremely and increasingly controversial development project (as will be seen by the articles which follow).

*Mr. Roger Malcolm is a white immigrant businessman married to Atiuan Kura. He has been associated with the Cook Islands since 1969 on and off and since 1979 has been resident on Atiu. He is a director, with his wife of Atiu Motel, AML shop and Takaiti Sawmill. He was involved, with others, in a move by landowners to retrieve land given to the now defunct ELI Corporation.

He is currently assumed by many on Atiu to be a strong supporter of Tura Koronui, who, so the JOURNAL has been informed, will represent the CIP against Mr. George in the next election.

*Mr. Tura Koronui is a policeman and an acknowledged community leader in Ngatiarua village. He appears to be the CIP candidate for Mr. George's seat but has yet to offer a platform other than his past record of service and a desire to get rid of Mr. George.

Supporters claim that Mr. George, as Minister of Police, was instrumental in securing the transfer of Mr. Koronui to Rarotonga against his will.

Supporters of Mr. George claim that policeman have no business getting involved in politics.

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It's war!

Ironically, this was the identical charge levelled at Mr. George by CIP supporters in 1978 when, as an Auckland policeman, Mr. George was prominent in Demo party affairs!

With truly CIs. political irony, Mr. George attacks Mr. Koronui with the same allegations the CIP's used to direct at him.... ..and presumably, Mr. Koronui could check up on some of Mr. George's 1978 statements to frame a defence!

*ELI is the Atiu or Enua Manu Land Incorporation, a fifteen year old agricultural co-operative which was once regarded as a model of CI development but which collapsed in a cloud of abuse and recrimination last year with its pro-Government committee roundly condemned by the High Court Judge.

*ADC is the phoenix which rose out of the ashes of ELI, with virtually the same committee, formed after a confidential meeting organised by MP Paratainga. It is widely believed to be the brainchild of a German entrepreneur, Mr. Jurgen Manske.

*Mr. Paratainga was elected after a bye-election in 1985 on what the CIP "faithful" have told us was supposedly a CIP ticket. He campaigned without inviting the support of CIP central officials and was elected with the support of several Demos. He immediately joined the Coalition government and teamed up with Mr. George in a proposed division of Atiuan responsibilities with Mr. George conducting national and international affairs and Mr. Paratainga remaining close to the Atiu scene. The arrangement was vaunted as a "model" of Coalition.

Since then, Mr. Paratainga has spent most of his time residing in Rarotonga - a fact which is believed to have cost him support. He is currently accused of trying to "buy" back that support through the allocation of government jobs. Supporters point, however, to a long and respected record of service to Atiu.

*Mr. Jurgen Manske arrived on Atiu in the early eighties and was believed at the time to be a protege of Mr. Malcolm and worked for, and with, Mr. Malcolm.

He was involved in a large number of widely differing development proposals but by 1987 had become the controversially titled "governing" director of Atiu Arrowroot Mill, manager of the Coffee Plantation, and manager of ELI, including the notorious shop which, in addition to his securing the CI Airways Agency against Mr. Malcolm, precipitated a bitter split between the two former associates.

NOW READ ON.....

As the story unfolds, readers will be able to detect the vigorous interventionist policies of right wing minister Norman George (an advocate of hands-off free enterprise in Rarotonga!), the parish pump local (to hell with enemies!) style of fellow MP Mariri Paratainga, what we judge to be the subtle colonial administrator role of Mr. Manske and the despairing free liberal sufferings of Mr. Malcolm.

It all makes, we believe, the island of Atiu an extremely interesting development laboratory.

NORMAN GEORGE ON ATTACK

In a dramatic press release delivered to the JOURNAL from the Rarotongan Atiu Office, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Areora (Atiu) MP Norman George delivered sharp rebukes to the instigators of the 1987 Court Action taken to recover shareholders land from the now defunct ELI Incorporation.

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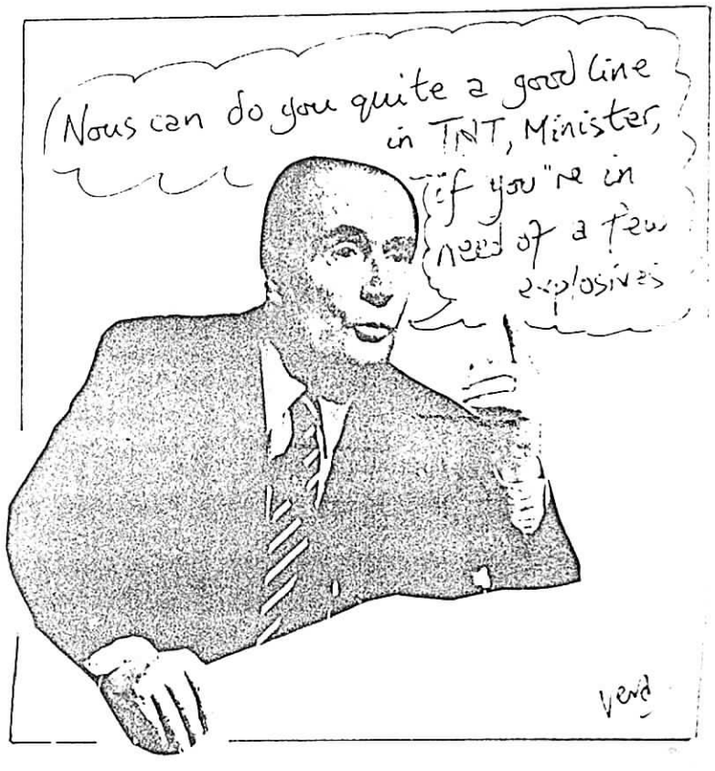

ROGER AND OUT?

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Minister George stated that the Court action alleged to have been taken by Roger Malcolm and Tura Koronui would cost the landowners of the Enuamanu Incorporation $5000.

Said Mr. George,"This will pay for their lawyer's expenses and travel costs."

The release quoted Mr. George as stating, "A huge cost of this kind, when it should never have cost our people one lousy cent, is cruel."

"I am most unhappy about this entire proceeding - the interests of the landowners were never considered," Mr. George is noted as adding.

The release offered a detailed statement of Minister George's feelings about the Court action.

"Roger and Tura took a private action against the Incorporation," it states, and alleges,"They acted in secrecy, mounted huge costs and, to add insult to injury, they succeeded in getting us, the landowners, to pay for it."

According to the release, Mr. George expressed the view that what really hurt the most was that "we wanted to wind up the incorporation voluntarily. There was no need for Roger and Kura to travel to New Zealand to petition the landowners."

Mr. George is noted as expressing the view that there was no need for lawyers to be involved.

He is quoted as stating that, "Roger and Tura know that when the matter came up for winding up, we all agreed. The incorporation had already lost its usefulness."

Mr. George is said to have claimed that the plaintiffs expected a big fight as they expected the defendents to resist the petition.

Mr. George is further noted to have commented upon the actions of Mr. Roger Malcolm to the effect that when he saw Mr. Malcolm taking action he was pleased as he was under the impression that Mr. Malcolm was using his own money. Under this impression he is said to have been pleased to see Mr. Malcolm acting, in his words, as "a good samaritan".

Mr. George is then quoted as expressing disappointment that "the samaritans have stung us with a $5000 expense fund."

Mr. George is said to have the understanding that the liquidator, Mr. Richard McDonald had already paid the money out of the Enua Manu Incorporation assets .

The release proceeds to speculate upon the alleged motives for the Court action taken by Mr. Malcolm and Mr. Koronui, noting that Mr. Malcolm's wife Kura owned shares in ELI alleged to be worth $1.27.

The release proposes that, in order to cash that sum, Mr. and Mrs Malcolm and Mr. Koronui incurred expenses of $5000 to the rest of the shareholders.

Mr. George is quoted as offering, by way of explanation the view that it was motivated by "Greed, commercial greed and bloody self-interest."

Mr. George is said to have accused Mr and Mrs Malcolm of "declaring war on the incorporation"..."as soon as the Enuamanu Incorporation opened a shop" and started competing with them.

The release continues with a discussion of the prices charged by Mr. and Mrs Malcolm for essential food items, describing them as "shocking".

Quotations are given of a frozen lamb being sold by Mr and Mrs Malcolm two years ago at $99.00 when such items were being sold in New Zealand, it is alleged, at $5.00.

A further quotation claims that they were selling frozen chicken at $9.50 when the Enuamanu Incorporation could sell them at $7.00.

The release alleges that Mr. Malcolm liquidated the Incorporation in order to close down the Enuamanu shop.

It describes Mr. Koronui as "Roger's henchman".

The release questions the motives of Mr. Koronui and suggests that he was motivated by a wish to be the next MP for Areora, Tengatangi and Ngatiarua. Thus motivated, the release alleges, he would be in a position to claim the return of landowners' land as an election tactic.

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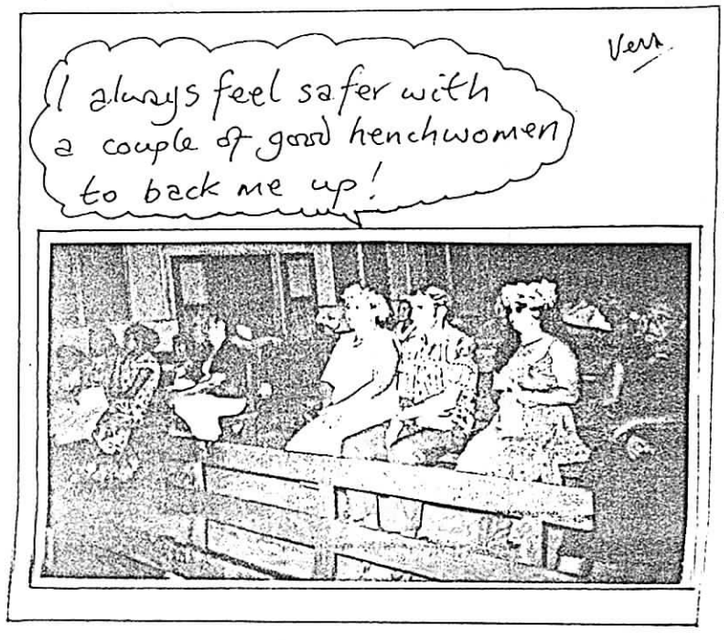

of landowners' land as a means of promoting his candidacy.

Mr. George is said to be "not greatly amused about Tura's heroics" which, he is said to have claimed, will cost him $5000 when "it could have been done for nothing."

Mr. George is quoted as commenting upon Mr. Koronui's candidature by allegedly asking, "can anyone tell me how Tura can expect the Atiu people to vote for him, when he supports a man who charges the world for his chicken and eggs?"

Mr. George is then quoted as referring to the new Atiu Development Corporation.

"I will say to my people we will set up a new ATIU DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (release's capitals) to bring in cheaper essential food, cheaper fuel and cheaper building materials", Mr. George is quoted as saying.

The release concludes by references attributed to Mr. George to the subject of a new motel.

Mr. George said, notes the release, "We will manufacture and export under the ADC flag and develop a new motel in Atiu to be known as 'The Atiu Health Retreat.'"

The release describes the motel as an "entirely new concept" which will incorporate fitness facilities, Maori medicine, traditional cures for physical ailments and traditional Atiu Health foods to feed our visitors.

The motel is said to be offering "something different to give variety to the rest of our tourist attractions.

Mr. George is finally quoted in a lighter mood as stating, "I offer cheaper chicken and eggs and plenty of development."

"Tura and Roger offer expensive chicken to profit Roger and Kura," the release quotes Mr. George as saying.

Mr. George is reported as concluding that "we have offered to buy Roger and Kura out if they feel wounded."

He is said to have added that he preferred them to "stick around" as there would be plenty of business for all of them.

Mr. George is said to have felt that it was a pleasure to have someone like Mr. Malcolm around as it was stimulating and occasionally served to "bring out the Atiu warrior in me!"

ROGER MALCOLM ON DEFENCE

In view of the often serious allegations made against Mr. Roger Malcolm in the Atiu Office press release, it was felt appropriate to offer Mr. Malcolm a reply in the same issue.

We offered him the normal press procedure of an interview on matters arising out of the release.

He requested a copy of the release in order to frame a response.

We informed him that, the proper procedure would be to wait until the release appeared in published form and we would offer him normal right of reply in a letter, or through a controlled press release.

We said he was free to choose his form of reply but that, in the interest of a more interesting presentation to balance the Atiu Office release, we would prefer a spontaneous interview under our control.

This was the course he chose and agreed that by doing this he waived any consideration of possible defamation against the JOURNAL arising out of the Atiu Office release.

On being confronted with the release, Mr. Malcolm initially responded by stating that, in his view, all matters of substance in the

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It's war!

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release had been covered by the High Court judgment delivered by Judge Dillon who, he alleged, had answered each one of the release's points definitively to the extent that in his (Mr. Malcolm's view) much of the release constituted contempt of court.

(NB: Having been already aware of this, as will have been noticed, our report on the release disassocites both the JOURNAL and Mr. George from direct responsibility)

Mr. Malcolm stated that he felt perhaps that he "ought to leave it at that as he could only reply by repeating what had already been said by Judge Dillon.

However, on reflection, he agreed to act "in the spirit of open debate" which the release had precipitated.

ROGER AND OUT?

J: Do you accept the role ascribed to you in the release with regard to the liquidation of ELI ?

RM: In so far as the action reported goes, I don't accept that I had the major role. That was basically Tura Koronui's ?

J: But you can't deny you had a big part to play.

RM: Our interest in the ELI affairs goes back to 1984. At that time I was interested in contacting Reuben Tylor, their lawyer, to see if they were interested in getting involved in the possibility of NZ aid through the NZ Forestry Department. It seemed a very good idea.

J: And how did that work out ?

RM: Reuben supplied me with all the various laws governing Incorporation activities so that we could see whether we could legally proceed. That was when I realised that there might be something very very wrong with ELI. You could say that, in the process of trying to help them, I discovered they needed big help in sorting out their affairs.

J: In what way?

RM: The committee of management had clearly not been performing its duties to shareholders. Dividends had not been declared, there were no AGM's, no proper minutes, no audit requirements and the committee had been lending each other shareholders' money.

J: Surely, it was all simply a matter of getting ELI's lawyer to sort things out, though. Why make a big fuss at that stage ?

RM: I didn't. I suggested that the lawyer should be engaged right then.

J: And what happened ?

RM: I believe he was never called. The reason given me was that the Incorporation could not afford a lawyer.

J: And at that stage, with such an answer, why did you pursue a matter which was of no direct concern to you?

RM: It's true I wasn't a shareholder and so could take no action even if I'd wanted to. But when I explained it all to my wife who IS a shareholder, she said we must do something.

J: And so you got involved ?

RM: No. My wife was too scared. It was not until Tura Koonui approached me that we became involved.

J: Why should he approach you?

RM: It was widespread knowledge that the committee were giving each other loans. I suppose I should say, I understood it was widely alleged that the committee were giving each other loans.

J: What was your response to Tura ?

RM: I told him that I had all the rules and regulations he was enquiring about.

J: Did you consider that the costs of any action might involve expenses amounting to a figure as high as $5000 ?

RM: We were unaware of the potential costs. We were just conc-

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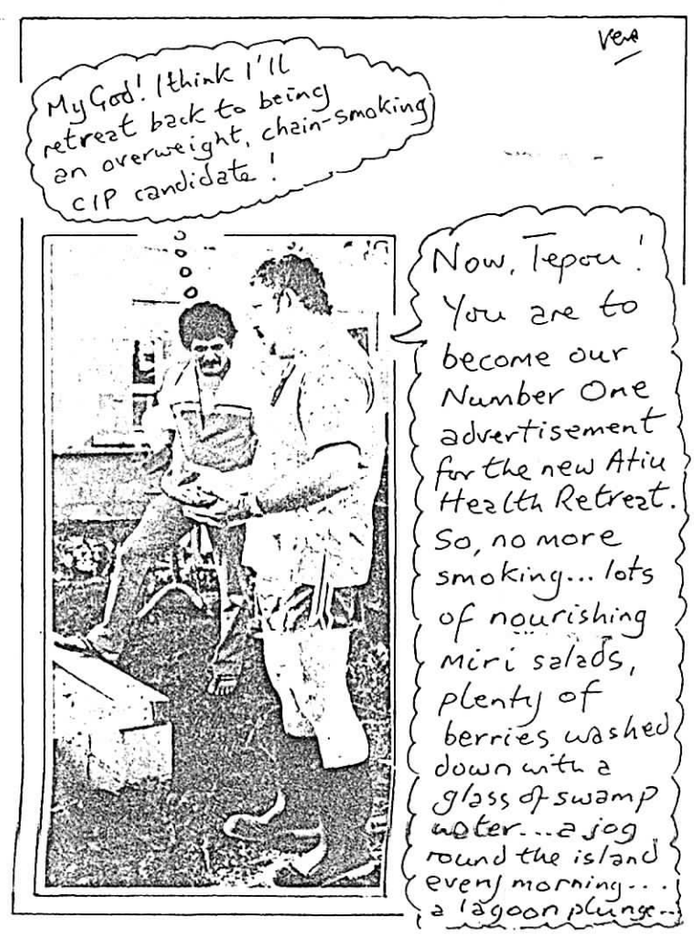
Vera
My God! I think I'll retreat back to being an overweight, chain-smoking CIP candidate!
Now, Tepou! You are to become our Number One advertisement for the new Atiu Health Retreat. So, no more smoking... lots of nourishing Miri salads, plenty of berries washed down with a glass of swamp water... a jog round the island every morning... a lagoon plunge...

FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..

erned with getting justice for the landowners who had requested our help.

J: $5000, as is mentioned in the Atiu Office press release IS an awful lot of money, though.

RM: Sure. But you must remember that the cost kept escalating and a major factor in this was the resistance of the committee. It cost $5000 to wind up the company but, as the Court stated, if the company had been allowed to continue under its existing management we would have lost tens of thousands more and every shareholder would have been in very serious difficulty.

J: So you feel Tura and you did the Company a service?

RM: Of course. The committee had already lost 25,000 and had to be stopped.

J: On what do you base that claim ?

RM: Prior to the opening of the Enua Manu shop under Mr. Manske's management and the committee's responsibility, shareholders' funds stood at 50,000 dollars, according to Mr. Manske's books, in assets. The liquidity at closure was $20,000 taking account of the $5000 court costs paid by the liquidator. $25,000 is therefore gone. $13000 of that is supposed to be recovered as part of the wind up sale. Hence 12000 is lost in cash and 13000 in assets. So, if we had not acted, it would have cost the shareholders a lot more. The press release can argue however it wishes. Those are the facts and the Judge confirmed them in the High Court.

J: How do you respond to the charge that you failed to heed the wishes of the majority of the landowneers?

RM: As Mr. George certainly knows, the majority of the landowners have never been consulted by anyone. They are out of the country. My wife was the only person who even tried to contact them in NZ. Mr George apparently believes that was wrong. He can't on the one hand say we didn't consult the majority and then condemn us for attempting to contact them!

J: Was Tura Koronui, in fact, your henchman?

RM: I resent that statement. Maybe Mr. George is saying that Atiuans have not got the brains to think for themselves! If anything, I could, I suppose, be accused of being used as Tura Koronui's henchman. I hope I wasn't. I have respect for Tura and don't think he would do that. If I was acting for anyone, it was for my wife. I am sure Mr. George would not hesitate to do the same for his wife. Tura had the support of many shareholders and about 80 proxies from other disatisfied landowners.

J: The JOURNAL was, at the time, of the opinion that many of those who signed a proxy did not understand what they were signing.

RM: We have realised that you may have been right. But I believe "a few" would be a more correct figure regarding those who did not clearly understand.

J: You are accused of acting in secrecy. Do you accept that ?

RM: We acted properly as shareholders and representatives of shareholders. The Court accepted the correctness of our conduct.

J: Did you at any time, though, seek to do things the "Atiu Way" ?

RM: Such as ?

J: Going to the committee and saying, for example, "Come on, lads, there's a problem here. Let's try to work it out."

RM: We were well aware of what response we would get. The same response you got yourself when you tried to approach the Vanilla Committee in the "Atiu Way". They ignored you until you brought in a Rarotonga lawyer.

J: So you did not convey your feelings first to the committee formally ?

RM: Our assessment was that the proper place was an AGM. The AGM serves a proper purpose in law and that's what we would like to see governing Atiu. The law.

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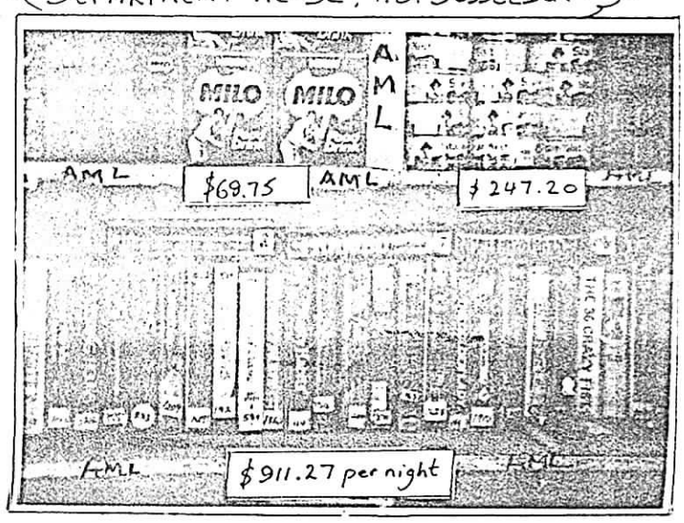


It's war!

FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..

Their is a democratic purpose served by an AGM and the committee members know that full well. The shareholders had been denied that for years.

J: Had you now the chance to go over the whole affair again, would you change your methods ?

RM: Knowing the people involved, it is difficult to imagine any other approach.

J: Why were the costs so high?

RM: After the committee had refused to hold a proper AGM and had made a mockery of our attempts to exercise our democratic rights, Mrs Browne had to visit Atiu no less than three times, plus staff and air fares and research fees in view of the fact that the committee had kept no register of shareholders. Hence the costs became huge due to, we claim, the incompetence of the company management. But in all this affair, you should really see Tura. It was all basically his idea.

J: The press release states that the company was going to be voluntarily and willingly wound up by everyone concerned.

RM: I doubt whether the committee were seriously intending to wind up an operation to which some of them were heavily in debt. Some of them haven't even paid off their debts now. In the meantime, the rest of the shareholders were expected, presumably, to sit quiet, suffer abuses and wait for the committee to pack up loaning each other the shareholders' money.

J: Did you deliberately foment trouble in NZ ?

RM: We wished we had not had to go there on personal matters. At the time, it was the first court wind-up meeting and we were keen to be there.

J: What went wrong with your plan to call an AGM.

RM: The AGM was called and turned into a farce by the committee and some island leaders. I think it was adjourned.

J: Why "think". Was there a vote for adjournment ?

RM: You're joking. There was no right to vote on anything given. The chairman simply announced it.

J: The release accuses you of pretending to use your own money and then charging the landowners. What is your reaction to this accusation.

RM: We were all quite prepared for the fact that it would cost us money and were prepared to pay out of our own pockets. But the Judge ruled that the committee had let the shareholders down. He stated that they had acted illegally and ruled that the shareholders had to pay. He first ruled that the committee had to pay. This was later changed.

J: The extent of your wife's shares is

SEE THE NEXT PAGE

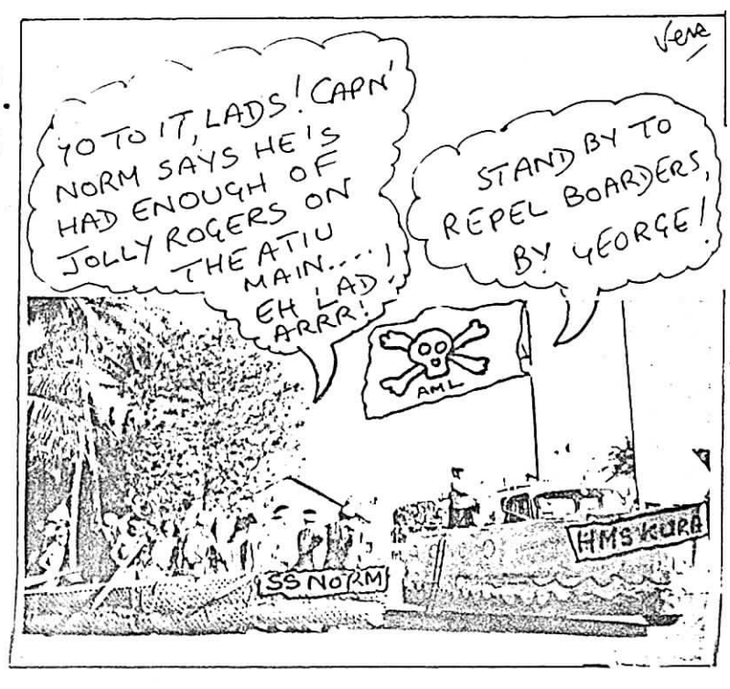
Ture Koronui - Policemen and Ngtiarua community worker.
Norman George's apparent opponent in the CIP camp.

AML

AFTER WORK WEEK-ENDS TONIGHT

COME TO AUNTIE KURA

WELCOME


VERA
YO TO IT, LADS! CAPN' NORM SAYS HE'S HAD ENOUGH OF JOLLY ROGERS ON THE ATIU MAIN....! EH, LAD? ARRR!
STAND BY TO REPEL BOARDERS, BY GEORGE!
AML
HMS KURA
SS NORM

FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..

low. Was it worth making this fuss?

RM: My wife holding is the same as a committee member who has a $5500 loan. She has rights.

J: Was it not, to be honest, just the opening of the shop which mtivated you. You couldn't stand the competition ?

RM: The competition was not proper. It could only operate by using shareholders money - the money which they had never had permission from the shareholders at large to use and upon which the shareholders were getting no return for their investment.

The true position of the opposition shop is revealed today while it is operating on its own finance as ADS. Now it is no longer allowed to use shareholders' funds to subsidise a non-profit-making or losing business, it is struggling to compete with us.

J: How do you know it was operating at a loss ?

RM: For a start, it has so far failed to settle its debts since liquidation.

J: The press release cites specific instances of over-charging. What is your reply ?

RM: In the case of the so-called frozen lamb, it was a one-off fresh lamb sale. I will bring you the invoice. Mr. George's figures are laughable and it is disturbing that he chooses to put his reputation behind what I call malicioulv false information he is being fed. We eventually sold the lamb at a loss to Mr. Moe Akai. It was a stupid buy but I thought it might sell. As for it being available at $5.00 in NZ, Mr. George would do well then to sail into the Rarotonga firm which charged us over 60 dollars plus freight and overheads for a ludicrous $5.00 fresh lamb carcase.

J: And the difference in price between you and ELI over frozen chickens.

RM: Quite correct. You can charge any price you like when you're not using your own money. It's a different story now they're forced to be competitive and learn the realities of business. At the moment our price for chickens is exactly the same as ADC. I don't believe they sell eggs but ours are price controlled. We also support local business by buying from Upoko Simpson and selling at cost. We believe in supporting local businesses not destroying them.

J: And what are your reactions to the proposed opening of a rival motel.

RM: Everyone has the right to open a motel if they want to. But I think the ADC proposal will destroy Atiu. But then, I have a vested interest.

J: Are you, in fact, just a born troublemaker who enjoys stirring up crises ?

RM: That's a serious accusation ?

J: Indeed.

RM: I am against injustice. When I see it I do my best to rectify it. I am especially concerned when I see so-called "big" people ripping of little people who has no power to protect themselves.

J: And you would number Norman George among those "big" people, presumably ?

RM: I have no real quarrel with Norman. He reacts. I accept he is the elected MP. But I remember when he was elected five years ago and said he had a lot to offer. I note that he is still doing a lot of "offering".

J: In other words, you are opposed politically ?

RM: I just listen to what he says he will do and note what he ends up actually doing.

J: Such as ?

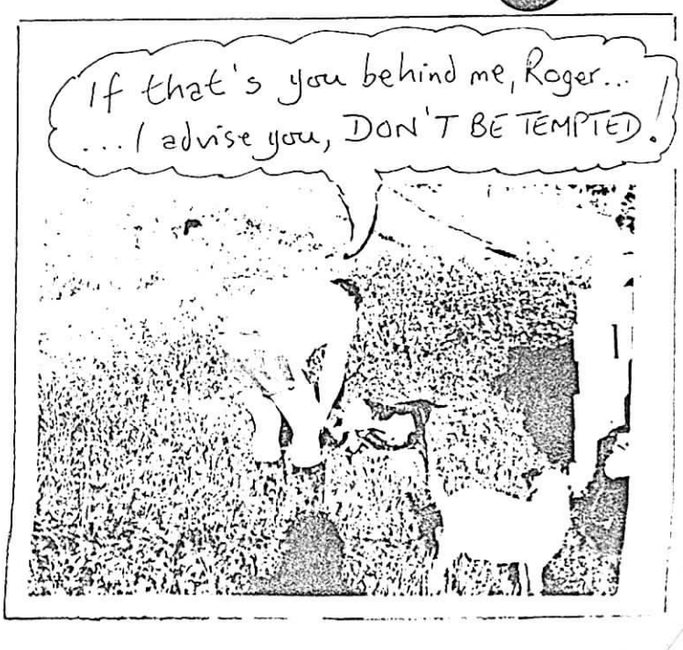
RM: Five years ago he said in his election platform that one job in the private sector is worth three or four in the public sector. I now see him setting record levels of hand-out government jobs and initiating an attack on viable private sector business with a corporation propped up by government.

J: Do you resent Mr. George ? After all, he says it is good to have you around as he finds you stimulating.

RM: At the moment, I don't think it is good to have someone like Mr. George around and I find him unstimulating! What do you expect me to say?

J: In your view, why are you under attack.

RM: In fact, I'm not under attack. My wife Kura is under attack. It's her business that's being threatened. I'm just a convenient papa'a target and therefore easy for anyone unscrupulous.



Toward a practical socialism

Commenting upon the latest public statements on the Atiu business and development crisis, we shall try to avoid the involvement of personalities except in so far as they perform a structural role.

The ELI/ADC affair does not defy objective analysis.

It continues to be coloured by personalities but can still be approached from the perspective of the Maori working man and woman - the perspective we have always tried to view in attempting commentary.

We find it appropriate to label this a Cook Islands socialist view.

Before offering an analysis, however, we shall try to put our fairly extensive research to the task of supporting or refuting some of the claims made by Mr. George and Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm.

Some of the claims are allegations of fact. Others have an emotional base.

As far as the various personalities are concerned, we would be less than honest if we did not express the view that Dr. R. Malcolm PhD and his trained teacher wife would be of far more service to the island in which thay are citizens if they were teaching physics and English at the College rather than serving in a shop or handing out eis to visitors.

Similarly, the developmental needs of Atiu would be better served by Mr. Manske, we believe, if he were employing his not inconsiderable management and commercial skills to teaching a generation of Atiuans how to do without him or Mr. Malcolm or Mr. George!

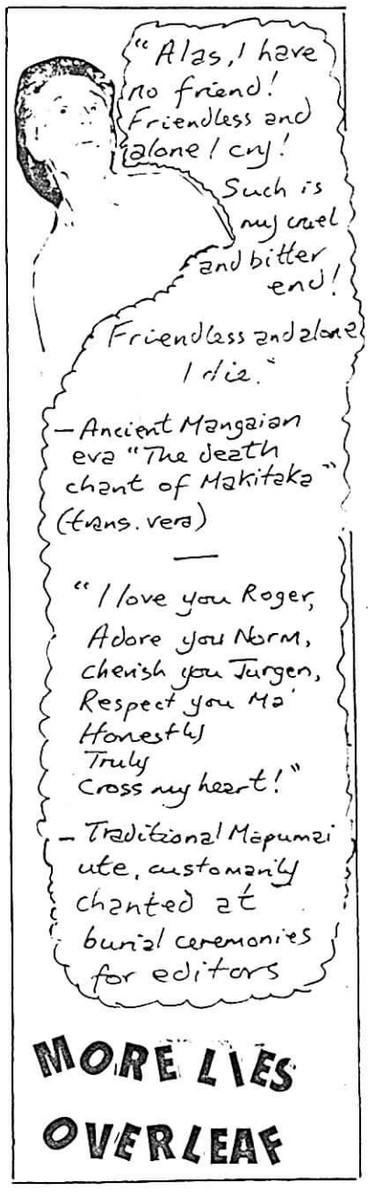
We have consistently tried to keep faith with readers by openly acknowledging any vested interest in what we tackle.

As far as ELI & ADC and AML etc are concerned, we have no direct involvement except that AML is our major advertiser.

Neither ELI nor ADC have ever deigned to support the JOURNAL as an Atiuan enterprise and, at times have been hostile.

But, as Mr. George has said in another context, we find that "stimulating" and offer our full support to them as a PRIVATE Atiuan enterprise operating for the benefit of their shareholders.

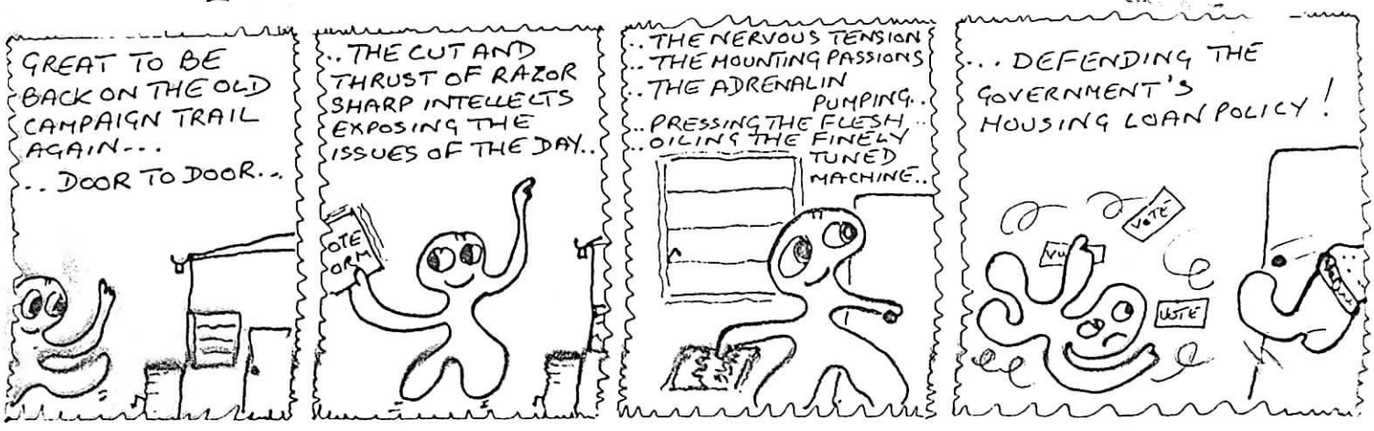
We take the view, however, that the moment they cease to be a PRIVATE enterprise and are subsidised in any way by the taxpayer or claim to be operating for ALL Atiuans OR attempt to utilise political advantage through leaning on or our politicians then, as Dave Brown said in the JOURNAL last week, they invite alternative treatment and the same scrutiny as the rest of the government agencies have to withstand.


"Alas, I have no friend! Friendless and alone I cry! Such is my cruel and bitter end! Friendless and alone I die."
— Ancient Mangaian eva "The death chant of Makiteka" (trans. vera)
"I love you Roger, Adore you Norm, Cherish you Jurgen, Respect you Ma' Honestly Truly Cross my heart!"
— Traditional Mapumai ute, customarily chanted at burial ceremonies for editors
MORE LIES OVERLEAF

the quorums

an everyday tale of political folk

tropo


GREAT TO BE BACK ON THE OLD CAMPAIGN TRAIL AGAIN...
..DOOR TO DOOR..
..THE CUT AND THRUST OF RAZOR SHARP INTELLECTS EXPOSING THE ISSUES OF THE DAY..
VOTE FOR ME
..THE NERVOUS TENSION
..THE MOUNTING PASSIONS
..THE ADRENALIN PUMPING..
..PRESSING THE FLESH
..OILING THE FINELY TUNED MACHINE..
..DEFENDING THE GOVERNMENT'S HOUSING LOAN POLICY!
VOTE
VOTE

FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..

First, then, our evaluation of what can be dealt with on the basis of fact.

Mr. George, via his press release, is said to:

a. Dispute the necessity for the ELI Court Action taken by Mr. Koronui supported by Mr. Malcolm and others.

b. Consider that the landowners should not have been made to pay costs as these should have been borne by Mr. Malcolm and others.

c, claim "we" (The committee? The landowners?) wished to wind up the incorporation voluntarily.

In the case of the ELI and AML shops, Mr. George alleges that:

a, AML sold a frozen lamb for $99.00 and infers that it was purchased from New Zealand at $5.00

b. That AML sold chicken for 9.50 whilst ELI sold chicken at $7.00

These appear to be the only facts at issue in either Mr. George's alleged attack and Mr. Malcolm's defence.

The following represents the result of our impartial enquiries.

1. The High Court in the person of Judge Dillon unarguably refuted Mr. George's quoted statements in the Atiu Office press release.

On the subject as to whether or not Mr. Koronui and others needed to take the action they did, the Judge commended Mr. Koronui for his action and advised all shareholders that they had a duty to look after their own interests.

SEE EXHIBIT ONE.

2. On the subject of who should have been made to pay the costs, the Atiu office press release infers that it should have been Mr. Malcolm and others. Mr. Malcolm claims that he and others were prepared to. The Judge ruled as follows:

"THE EMBARASSING SITUATION THAT WAS PRODUCED IS WHETHER ALL THE OWNERS SHOULD PAY COSTS OR WHETHER JUST THE PRESENT COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT SHOULD PAY CLARKE'S COSTS, BECAUSE THAT IS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A MEMBER OF AN INCORPORATION BECAUSE IF YOU DO SOMETHING WRONG YOU BEAR THE COSTS. WHY SHOULD ALL THESE PEOPLE HAVE TO PAY THE COSTS, THEY DID NOT MAKE UP THE WHOLE SET UP. IT IS FOR ME TO DECIDE WHETHER EVERYBODY SHOULD PAY OR WHETHER IT IS FOR THE COMMITTEE. YOU THE COMMITTEE SHOULD PAY. THAT IS WHY I WANT TO KNOW WHY YOU WON'T PAY COSTS."

EXHIBIT ONE

Extract from the Court Report on the Liquidation of ELI in the High Court, Atiu 2.9.87.

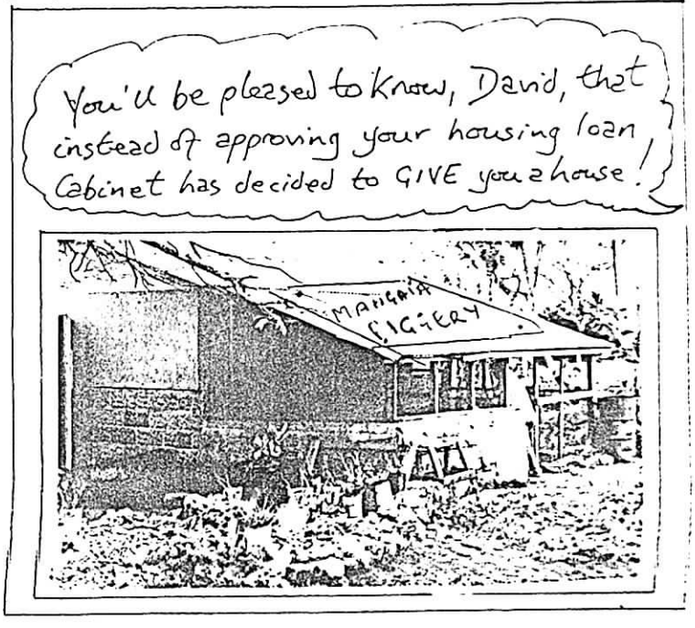
Court: The first thing I would like to say is that the Committee of Management is at fault for not following the rules of having Annual General Meetings and having the accounts updated every year. The second one at fault, all you people who are shareholders you have allowed this situation to occur, you have not complained, you have done nothing because of that, your Incorporation has got into a large financial situation. According to Mr McDonald your Incorporation owes $33,000 in debts and it has made a loss of another $29,000 which I find unbelieavable. It is quite clear if this situation had not been allowed to go on we would get about $50,000 or $60,000. Mr Koronui and the people he represented who were prepared to go to Rarotonga at their own expense and and his followers are entitled to be commended and are entitled for any airfares refund and Clarkes are entitled to be paid whether the Incorporation want to or not. Clarkes

Atiu Office:

"I am most unhappy about this entire proceeding - the interests of the majority of the landowners were never considered."

(NB. The JOURNAL considers that the above two statements may be deemed contempt of court, but accepts responsibility for publication on the grounds that such statements have been widespread among leaders of Atiu and feels that they need to be aired and even declared to Justice Dillon in the event that he may wish to comment)

Atiu Office Press Release: "A huge cost of this kind, when it should never have cost our people one lousy cent, is cruel."


You'll be pleased to know, David, that instead of approving your housing loan, Cabinet has decided to GIVE you a house!
MANGAIA CIGARS

(SEE HEAD OF COLUMN TWO)

FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..

3. To test the claim that "'we" had wanted all along to wind up the Incorporation and that Mr. Malcolm and Mr. Koronui knew that, we consulted the minutes of the meeting ordered by the High Court in the presence of Mrs. Tina Browne of Clarke's Law Firm, after the adjournment of the abortive AGM of ELI.

We consulted the record for the comments on the question of winding up by the members of the committee and others who might be deemed to be supporters of Mr. George or Mr Parataínga or in any other way deemed "we".

See Right

On the subject of the AML shop Mr. Malcolm is accused of selling a piece of fr frozen lamb for $99.00 which cost $5.00 in NZ.

The Atiu Office alleges:

"The price Kura and Roger charged for essential food items were shocking. A frozen lamb was being sold for $90.00 two years ago, when they were being sold in New Zealand fc for $5.00 each."

SEE THE NEXT PAGE

The Atiu Office Release states, "What really hurst the most is that all along we wanted to wind up the incorporation voluntarily." and "Roger and Tura know that when the matter came up for winding up, we all agreed...they expected us to resist the petition."

The Minutes of the Meeting of ELI held by order of the Registrar of the Court held on 12 & 13.3.87 show the following reactions to a motion for winding up:

In order of speaking:

MARIRI NIO (Deputy Mayor of Atiu):(I)suggest the present committee to remain as committee.

KAPAO KAPAO (Reputed to be a very strong suppoter of MP Mariri Parataínga) I object to the ELI Incorporation being wound up.

UPOKOINA TAPUIRA (Committee) I support Kapao's suggetion not to wind up.

TEIOTU T. POTO (Mayor of Atiu): What happens if the ELI Incorporation winds up? We lose the glory of Atiu. Te meitaki ua ra te Incorporation.

MOE BOAZA (CAO) I support Papa Tu. We can amend the Act, change everything. Renew everything to suit us. The ELI Incorporation Shop is very cheap.

TAKE T. PATI: Don't wind up the Incorporation.

MATAPUROTO NGAMATA: (I) support the motion that the ELI Incorporation to continue as usual.

MATAKI KAIARUNA (Committee member; spokesman; Present Chairman of ADC and Airport Authority): I support the suggestion for the ELI not to wind up.

RAKA UIRA: Kare oki manata ki te kumiti.

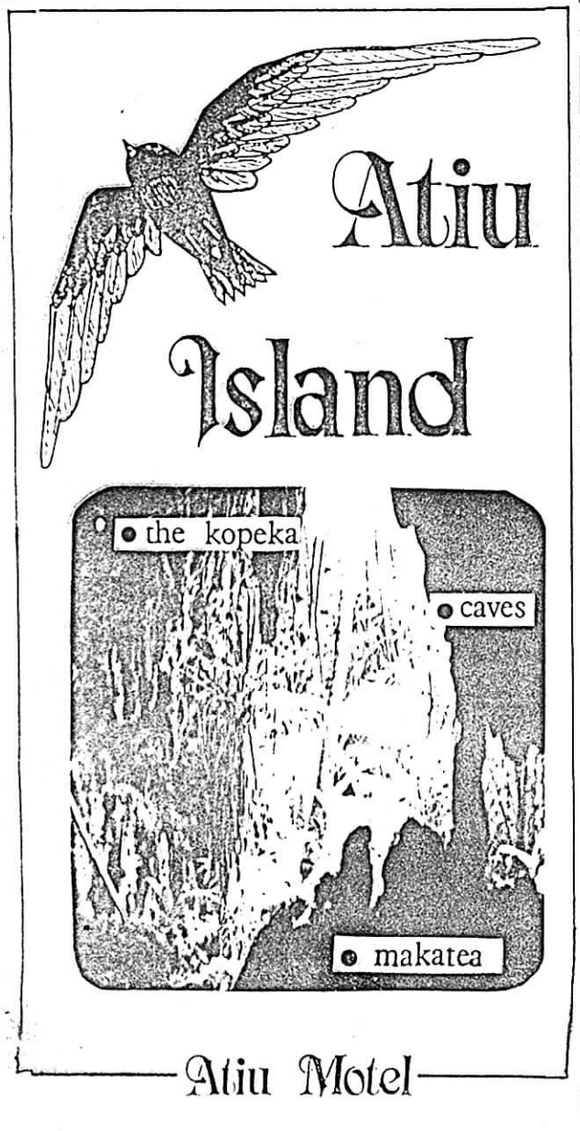
NGA MANU (Secretary of ELI and ADC, President of Democratic Party): It seems majority want land withdrawn from Incorporation. Amend Act for benefit of landowners.

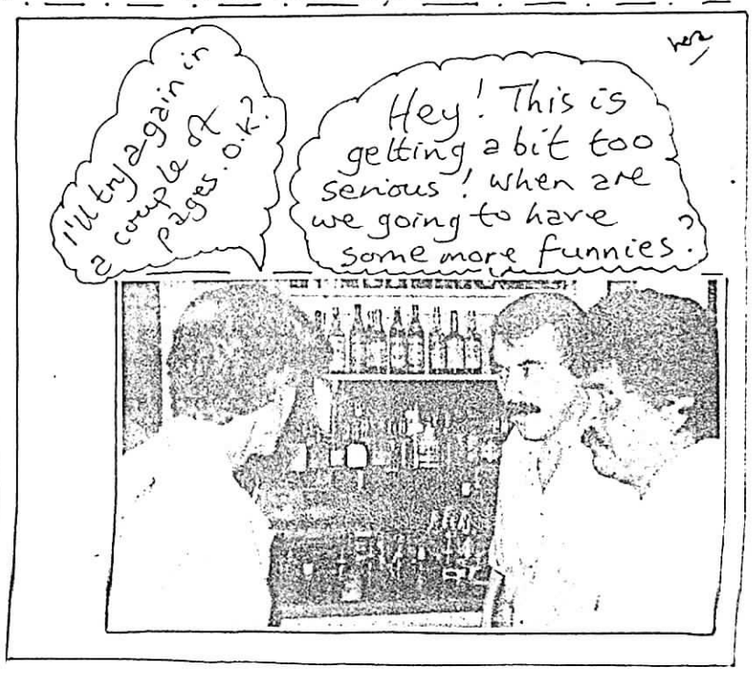
TEAU PARATAINGA: I support ELI to continue.

RORU UPOKO: Support suggestion that those who wish to withdraw land do so. If you don't, that's OK.

KATO KAIARUNA: Leave our land in the Incorporation.

TEARAI NOKOROA (Chairman ELI): I support the suggestion that ELI Incorporation continue as usual to operate current business.





FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..

In defence, when questioned Mr. and Mrs Malcolm asked for time to find the invoice and produced the following:

See Right

These two exhibits, a Meatco Invoice dated 29.10.88 and an Air Rarotonga Excess Baggage Invoice were presented on request and are reproduced by permission of AML.

Account Form

DC 10-49 SC.

M Atiu Motels.

Dr. to Meatco Ltd.

1 x Carcase Lambs [illegible]		70	14
4 x Beef Tails $24.00		69	50
5-59kg Cockles		27	13
		166	77

EXHIBIT TWO

AIR RAROTONGA

INVOICE 610405

№ 9741

FREIGHT/EXCESS BAGGAGE

Date: 29-10-88

From: Atiu

Noel Wilcox

To: Atiu

OK

No. of Pieces:

Total Weight: 59 kgs.

Rate per Kg. 65 cents

CASH/CHARGE Atiu Motel

INVOICE NO.

TOTAL $ 38:35.

Received by: T.

BELOW LEFT:

1. Meatco Invoic for:
1X Carcase Lamb at 70.14 dollars (figures in marg in are Mrs Malco lm's calculation on mark-up..init ially rounded to $100 and reduced to a two figure $99 a practise another shopkeep er has told us i normal) Mark-up on Raro retail price 20% minus freight.
BELOW:
2. Air Raro Excess baggage for 59kg at 65c per kg. Bill 38.35 larg-est amount of which is the lamb.

THE BIG BAD MESS(ES) — THINGS WILL GET WORSE:

Few readers are likely to disagree with a conclusion that the Atiu Office Press Release's attack on Mr. Malcolm, Mr Koronui and Mrs Malcolm, in so far as facts are concerned is totally without justification and based upon false information.

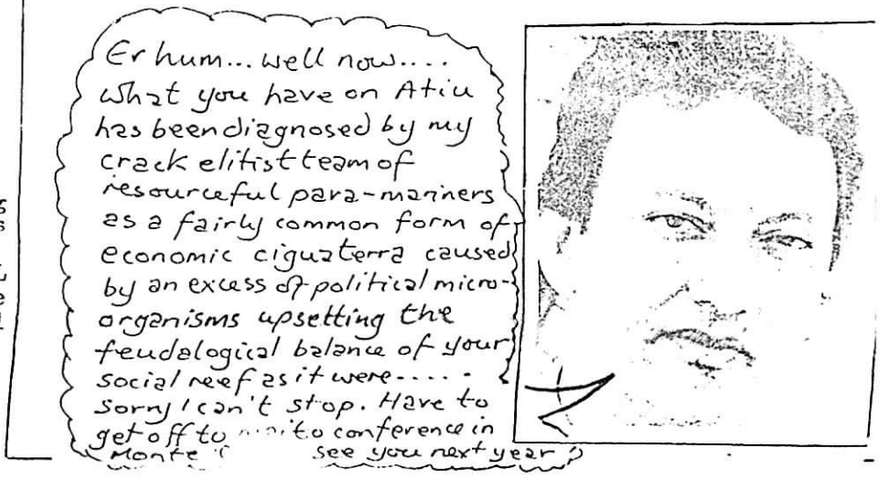
Exhibit Two reveals that AML, after freight were trying to sell (according to them, as an experiment) a fresh lamb carcase and had marked up the Raro retail price after freight by about %10. We have ascertained that the carcase was eventually sold at a loss. The allegation that it was bought in NZ for $5.00 is, according to an NZ contact, laughable but, if true, the Exhibit shows that it was Meatco who may have been proiteering NOT AML.

SEE THE NEXT PAGE

Comment

Our summary and concluding comments upon the matters and issues contained in this issue of the JOURNAL as a commentary under the title "Toward a practical socialism" are contained on our next page.

SEE THE NEXT PAGE


Er hum... well now.... What you have on Atiu has been diagnosed by my crack elitist team of resourceful para-mariners as a fairly common form of economic ciguaterra caused by an excess of political micro-organisms upsetting the feudalogical balance of your social reef as it were.... Sorry I can't stop. Have to get off to [illegible] to conference in Monte[illegible] see you next year.

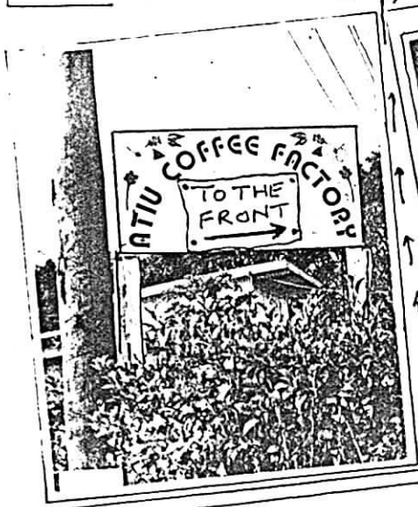
March 15 1988.

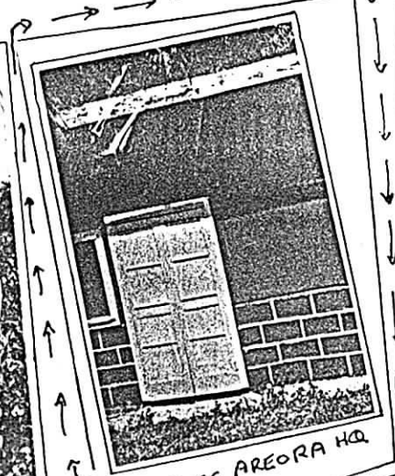
THE BATTLE OF ROGERLOO
OR
ALL NOISY ON THE FESTERED FRONT

SCENES FROM_____

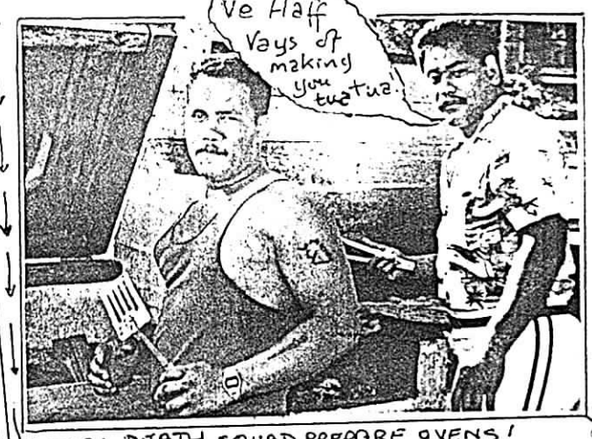
not so

THE GREAT WAR





SCHLOSS AREORA HQ



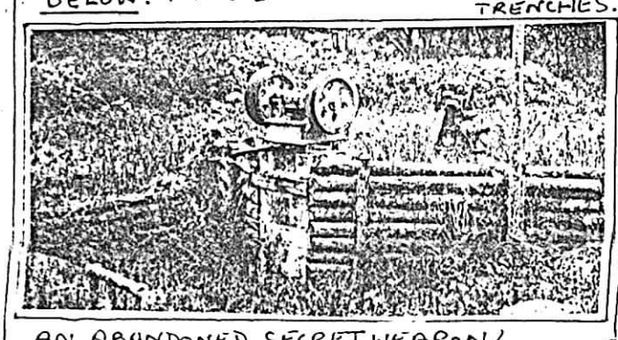
LOCAL DEATH SQUAD PREPARE OVENS!

THE RUINS OF SCHLOSS NORM - SCENE OF SOME OF THE FIERCEST KNEE TO GROIN ENCOUNTERS IN THE EARLY SKIRMISHES OF THE WAR!

LEFT: KAISER NORMAN I of Kz. KING GEORGE 0.5 CAPTURES A FEROCIOUS ENEMY BANANA TREE!

ONLY KNOWN PHOTOGRAPH OF MYSTERIOUS UNKNOWN DOUBLE AGENT. CAPABLE OF ORGANISING CEASE FIRE BY CALLING ELECTIONS IF CAN BE TRACED

BELOW: THE BLEAK VISTA OF LIFE IN THE TRENCHES!



AN ABANDONED SECRET WEAPON!

RIGHT: AN ARMS DEALER WAITING FOR ONE SIDE TO RUN OUT OF AMMO!

LEFT: AN ARMS DEALER WAITING FOR THE OTHER SIDE TO RUN OUT OF AMMO!

A SHORT-FUSED EXPLOSIVE

STRATEGY

THE BIG BAD MESS(ES) — THINGS WILL GET WORSE:

FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..

Hence AML may be in a strong position to allege that they, as a peaceful law-abiding business, have been accused of gross profiteering (a serious charge in business) on the basis of totally incorrect information with no attempt to substantiate it.

In the light of this, Mr. Malcolm's counter to the charge of over-charging in chickens (anyone can charge any price when it is not your own money at risk) would appear to have substance.

Weight is added to this by the equally erroneous basis upon which Mr. Malcolm and Mr. Koronui appear to have been accused of "greed and bloody self-interest" in their actions regarding the ELI wind up.

Mr. Malcolm, in particular, may judge himself, his wife and the company in which he is a director to have been seriously defamed.

So, why in the light of this, did we allow publication of the release ?

We offer our explanation in our commentary.

Judge Dillon alone is in a position to consider whether the release constitutes contempt of his court judgment.

The key issue in a defamation suit is the question of malice.

The defiant actions of some former ELI personnel who appear to have ignored all calls to reason and common sense, all professional advice offered, and, so it is widely reported, ignored the Judge's statements in court...and now appear to be leaning on Mr. George to force him through political pressure to use his high office in the CIs Government to front up for them, are breathtaking in their audacity.

That they are made for apparent commercial gain through the new ADC may appear to many neutral observers to constitute malice in their actions toawrds Mr. Malcolm.

The Atiu Office Press Release, whether or not under Mr. George's was very very wrong.

The JOURNAL believes it to be a calamitous error of political judgment marking a not inconsiderable crisis point in a career aiming for continued high office.

The judgment neutrals may make on Mr. George is not what he may or may not have done but how he handles this crisis.

As he contemplates the damage done to him and the credibility to ADC he may do well to ponder the words of the late Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy to the young JFK as he was being to head for high political office:

"Don't get dragged down into the dirt of local politics or that is where you'll stay."

It may be worth concluding simply.

The Atiu Office and whoever fed them the information in the release were factually wrong no matter how much emotional justification they might have used to persuade themselves to go on the attack.

Mr. Malcolm, Mr Koronui and Mrs. Malcolm seem justified if they feel very wronged and extremely aggrieved.

One thing seems sure.

If this is a sample of ADC business strategy, the several big bad messes which exist right now are going to get considerably worse.

Mr. George's first move to solve the crisis of credibility created may well be to start firing....not bullets, but people.

Few would blame him!

COMMENTARY

Toward a practical socialism

(FROM PAGE 15)

In the first part of this commentary, we have tried to assist readers in coming to a conclusion about the basic factual rights and wrongs.

It has not been hard.

If you accept the High Court's judgment and if you can add up invoices, no help is required!

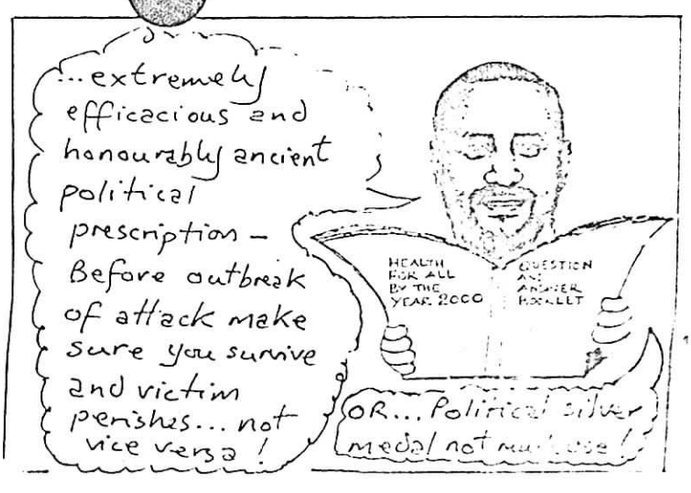
Mr. Malcolm et al are right. The Atiu Office is wrong!

But the story is not as simple as that.

Firstly, why did we publish something libellous.

Well, in fact, we did remove the greatest libel as the person under attack is not in a good position to defend himself.

(SEE PAGE 18)


...extremely efficacious and honourably ancient political prescription — Before outbreak of attack make sure you survive and victim perishes... not vice versa!
HEALTH FOR ALL BY THE YEAR 2000
QUESTION AND ANSWER BOOKLET
OR... Political silver medal not nuclear!

THE JOURNAL & THE (Last) WORD

FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..

The rest we let through...given that the Atiu Office release was handled with severe editorial objectivity.

Why ?

Our defence is that the extraordinary attacks on Mr. Malcolm and his business and to a lesser extent Mrs Malcolm have been bandied about in secret and in public for a long time.

The attacks have been wildly slanderous and MR. Malcolm has rarely been given any chance to defend himself.

The normal protection citizens take to protect themselves against downright anarchic irrationality which has displayed itself on Atiu is to turn to the courts as a last resort.

However, it has been witnessed that in a final total defiance of reason, even the Judge of the High Court has been apparently treated with disdain.

We take no sides.

And, by objective editing and open invitations behind the scenes to all parties to use the JOURNAL to inform the public, court action may not ensue.

What we are seeing, though, as we bring for the moment a long single issue edition to a close, what the JOURNAL has always believed is one of the inevitable bye-products of the bourgeois capitalism promoted under Coalitina.

Simply put, that suggests that hands-off private enterprise where we're all encouraged to grab whatever's going while the market is right and the opposition aren't organised, produces "hands-off" other things.

Like decency between village neighbours, fairness and justice.

They, too, have to take their chance. And Mr. Malcolm must be aware that his nice car and his big house and his comfortable life style are products of a climate which will produce the situation Atiu is landed with! And of which he now finds himself the victim.

It was for these reasons therefore that we decided to publish. To allow things to be out in the open so that they may be discussed without fear and learning (real development) take place.

But for the working class Atiuan and from his, and her perspective there is far more at atke than the Malcolm's sensitivities, the Manskes ambitons or the Georges dreams.

The need for Atiu and the Cook Islands to move decisively toward a practical socialism is pressing, we feel.

ADC has much within it that could provide just that for Atiu.

We believe it has a lot of repair work to do and we will look at that, from the standpoint of international experience next week.

In the meantime, however, the week for once belongs to the much-abused Malcolm family.

And, it may be appropriate to give the last say to a successful leading Cook Islands businesswomen who started with nothing and is doing pretty well! Atiu's Kura Malcolm.

THE LAST SAY OF ALL

"My Atiuan house and my Atiuan business is the same as Norman George's. It is my dream. The dream of all Atiuans. And I've built it. And I'm keeping it! And no foreigner and no political manoevring is going to dare offer to buy me out! The very idea! Some foreigner daring to offer to BUY OUT AN ATIUAN WOMAN'S LAND AND HOUSE! "

NEXT WEEK

WHY TURA AND ROGER WERE ALSO WRONG

SUPPLEMENT

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

"SEARCH" SLAMS ATIU COMMITTEE

In a startling and pointedly frank article on Community Projects in the Cook Islands, the well-respected monthly "SEARCH" has just delivered a scathing attack upon the activities of committee members responsible for the management of various local development projects.

Under the headline "MISMANAGEMENT", editor JOHN HERRMANN (husband of Atiuan English graduate Ina) expresses deep concern at the attitudes and lack of accountability of Maori committees.

Among others, he cites in detail both the 1987 ELI liquidation and the Mapumai Meeting House Committee.

SEE THE NEXT PAGE

John Herrmann

Distinguished writer, critic, Maori activist and Editor of the monthly Development Periodical "SEARCH", USP Extension Centre Director, John Herrmann.

MISMANAGEMENT - A CONSTANT BARRIER

IN COMMUNITY PROJECTS

I have used the Mangaia Cultural and Community Centre Fund-Raising project as a case study, primarily because of my familiarity with it. This in no way however, implies that it is the only association which suffers from poor management. Many examples come to hand. Last year saw the Enua Manu Land Incorporation (ELI) in court for gross mismanagement. Poor management also saw the Aitutaki project, initiated over 20 years ago gradually fade into oblivion. It was revived only last year. Over the years several sports clubs on Rarotonga have been poorly managed. One sports club hasn't had its books audited for over 3 years! In January this year, I attended a meeting where the treasurer of a Tere Party from Wellington, enquired as to "how $3,000 which they (in NZ) had sent, was spent." No financial statement or explanation of expenditure was given to him, except a verbal assurance that the money had been well spent on the village meeting house. Two spokesmen then urged him (the treasurer from Wellington) "not to worry about things of the past but rather to plan and work for the future." Other examples of improper practices exist today.

VERA SUPPLEMENT

What the JOURNAL feels is that Mr. Herrmann has, in a courageous editorial tradition, struck a most important blow for the cause of Maori nationhood, that nationhood to which all citizens would like to think they are contributing. Leadership of the kind given by many local committees is a betrayal of nationhood. Mr. Herrmann offers insights which will stir a note of pride that a young nation need not be led by ignorance and bullying and recourse to the kind of racist insults which have been handed out to Mr. Malcolm by many local Atiuan leaders. Now, the JOURNAL, SEARCH (both free, independent papers), the High Court Judge, and, we are sure an overwhelming number of CIs. citizens join in declaring that, gentlemen of the committee, forget Mr. Malcolm.....YOU, yes YOU...are WRONG! Do something about it, friends. Mr. Herrmann suggests what, for his Mangaian colleagues. Next week we shall offer the same, with respect, you our Atiuan friends.

"SEARCH"

"The essence of good administration is good planning....Those who plan, must always be constantly in touch with the "mind and hearts" of those for whom the plans are intended. Almost without exception, plans which fail to achieve their objectives, are usually those which are designed without extensive consultation and participation. In this day and age, dictatorial administrations rarely ever last for a long time. Improved education has given way to a questioning public.

Recent studies in administration emphasise the importance of active participation by as many elements as practical. Leaders must guard against planning in isolation. This principle is valid in any administrative structure. Broad-based representation in decision making is essential for the long-term survival of any institution. Allied with the principle of broad-based participation in decision-making is that of accountability. Accountable in the sense that those elected to office stand to serve those who elected them. Accountability also entails the proper keeping of all funds at all times. And in striving to uphold this principle, the proper recording of minutes is very important.

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..

As a first step towards recovery, a full general meeting of the Mangaia C.C.C. project should be called within a month. The meeting should be publicised widely. Items for the agenda should include standard requirements for A.G.M's. Above all, the accounts of the association should be placed in the hands of a qualified auditor. A "new" executive should be elected at that meeting. But it must be a caring leadership seriously committed to the undertaking. And that executive must have a clear sense of responsibility and acknowledge its accountability to all members of the association. Furthermore, every member of that executive must understand his obligations to perform in trust. At the same time, ordinary members must play an active part in all activities. Attend meetings regularly. Express views in meetings, not outside. Insist that receipts be issued for all funds raised. Ask for regular financial statements. Familiarise oneself with the rules of meetings. Know the responsibilities of office bearers and so on. This is what participation means. Active participation does not merely mean the contribution of funds towards a project. Far more importantly it calls for an ever-watchful membership to ensure that standard procedures in the management of associations are followed. Above all, full participation calls for an ever-questioning membership to ensure that every cent and every dollar is properly accounted for.

"What we must do is constantly evaluate the performance of all office bearers at all times. But we must also evaluate our own individual roles as members and contributors. And wherever weaknesses are identified, let us be honest. Admit our difficulties, where we have failed and our ignorance of procedures where appropriate. But in doing so, let us not leave it there. We all have to work at the problems in order to remedy them. Whether at the village or district level, all office bearers have a responsibility to those who elected them to office. This is the essence of democracy!